

Secretary of the Navy Recognizes Top Naval Innovators

From the Office of the Chief of Information

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) Ray Mabus [announced](#) the winners and finalists of the SECNAV Innovation Awards for 2015 today, recognizing the top innovators within the Department of the Navy (DON).

The SECNAV Innovation Awards Program, administered by the DON Office of Strategy and Innovation, recognizes DON military and civilian individuals or teams who have made significant innovative achievements in 2015.

"Every day, across the Department of the Navy, our talented Sailors, Marines, and civilians are creating innovative solutions to our most complex challenges," said Mabus. "The accomplishments of those recognized through this year's innovation awards are truly remarkable and should serve as inspiration for the entire workforce to continue to think boldly to solve our most challenging problems." Receiving the SECNAV Innovation Award is a significant accomplishment and a testament to the outstanding ingenuity and professionalism of the DON personnel, added Mabus.

The DON recognized innovators in program categories such as Robotics/ Autonomous Systems, Data Analytics, Additive Manufacturing, Innovation Leadership, Innovation Scholar, Enlisted Innovator, Innovation Catalyst, and Outside the Box.

This year's award recipients included submissions on electronic warfare battle management software, web-based SONAR tactical decision aids, additive manufacturing for advanced liquid propulsion and other applications, underwater wireless energy transfer systems, and real-time acoustic imaging.

"We received over 300 award submissions from innovators at all levels across the Navy and Marine Corps", said Mr. Scott Hargate, the Awards Coordinator. "The judging was extremely difficult and everyone was impressed by the amazing ideas and strong initiative in the Department of the Navy's workforce. The work of these individuals and teams represents a cultural change in the way we think through and solve challenges in our organization. Hopefully, this recognition inspires the next generation of innovators."

The Innovation Awards Program is part of a larger effort to foster idea development and incentivize innovators across the DON to creatively develop solutions and catalyze future innovation by providing cash awards and professional development opportunities.

Winners of the Innovation Awards may receive an innovation fellowship, specialized training, choice of their next duty station, or a cash award up to \$5,000.

For more information on the SECNAV Innovation Awards winners and outstanding submissions, visit <http://www.secnaveavy.mil/innovation/Pages/Home.aspx>.

Follow DON Innovation at <https://www.facebook.com/DUSNMSI>, or [Twitter \(@DON_Innovation\)](#)

For more news, visit <http://www.navy.mil>.